

Committee on Ways and Means

United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement

U.S.-Oman FTA Does NOT Affect U.S. Immigration Laws

- The Oman FTA has nothing to do with immigration and does not change or require any change to U.S. immigration laws.
- Congressional powers to regulate immigration are fully preserved.
- The United States and Oman entered into a legally binding exchange of letters that explicitly states that “no provision of this [FTA] shall be construed as imposing any obligation on a Party regarding its immigration measures.”
- The FTA does not afford any “rights” to foreign workers to enter or work in the United States. Indeed, a provision of the FTA (Article 11.1.5) clearly states that the United States is not required to allow Omani nationals access to work in the United States.
- The bottom line is that if Omani nationals wish to travel to the United States, they must do so under existing immigration rules.